



The Happy Homeowner

Home-Comfort Ideas You Can Warm Up To

(NAPS)—Even when energy prices look like they're going through the roof, homeowners can find ways to save money and stay comfortable. According to the United States Department of Energy (DOE), almost half the energy used in the average home is for heating and cooling. Homeowners should learn about their heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system and its effect on your heating bills and comfort level.

A program developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency called ENERGY STAR offers helpful tips for saving money on utility bills by using energy-efficient products and practices. These suggestions can help you keep your home safe and comfortable while reducing your energy costs at the same time.

- Change the air filter regularly—a dirty filter will make the whole system work harder. Filters should be changed at least every three months in cold weather or sooner if needed.

- Get your HVAC equipment a check up—consider an inspection by a qualified HVAC contractor to make sure everything is in proper working condition.

- Install a programmable thermostat—the average home can save \$150 a year by using pre-programmed settings when your family is away from home.

- Make sure your ducts are leak-proof and connected—proper sealing and insulation around



Ensure your home is warm and comfortable while reducing your energy costs at the same time.

ductwork can improve efficiency and save up to 20 percent on your utility bills.

- Consider installing ENERGY STAR heating equipment—systems more than 10 years old are often not efficient and can be costing you in comfort and savings.

A Johnson Controls York® brand HVAC contractor can offer suggestions for selecting the right system for your home if purchasing a new system or determine what replacement parts are needed to improve efficiency and cost savings on your old one.

By taking these simple steps to monitor and maintain your HVAC system, you can make your home comfortable, efficient and safe while lowering your energy bills.

To learn more about energy-efficient products and services, visit www.yorkupg.com or call (800) 910-YORK.